

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
REQUEST FOR FILING NATIONAL PHASE OF
PCT APPLICATION UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371 AND 37 CFR 1.494 OR 1.495To: Hon. Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

00909

TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES
DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)Atty Dkt: P 290483 /2990193US/Hm/kp
M# /Client Ref.

From: Pillsbury Winthrop LLP, IP Group:

Date: December 20, 2001

This is a **REQUEST** for **FILING** a PCT/USA National Phase Application based on:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| 1. International Application | 2. International Filing Date | 3. Earliest Priority Date Claimed |
| PCT/FI00/00583 | 28 June 2000 | 30 June 1999 |
| <u>fi</u> country code | Day MONTH Year | Day MONTH Year
(use item 2 if no earlier priority) |

Measured from the earliest priority date in item 3, this PCT/USA National Phase Application Request is being filed within:

- (a)
- ☐
- 20 months from above item 3 date (b)
- ☒
- 30 months from above item 3 date,

- (c) Therefore, the due date (unextendable) is December 30, 2001

Title of Invention IDENTIFYING AN OBJECTInventor(s) TUULOS

Applicant herewith submits the following under 35 U.S.C. 371 to effect filing:

7. ☒ Please immediately start national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371 (f)).
8. ☒ A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)) is transmitted herewith (file if in English but, if in foreign language, file only if not transmitted to PTO by the International Bureau) including:
- a. ☒ Request;
- b. ☒ Abstract;
- c. 20 pgs. Spec. and Claims;
- d. 2 sheet(s) Drawing which are ☐ informal ☒ formal of size ☒ A4 ☐ 11"
9. ☒ A copy of the International Application has been transmitted by the International Bureau.
10. A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2))
- a. ☐ is transmitted herewith including: (1) ☐ Request; (2) ☐ Abstract;
- (3) _____ pgs. Spec. and Claims;
- (4) _____ sheet(s) Drawing which are:
- ☐ informal ☐ formal of size ☐ A4 ☐ 11"
- b. ☒ is not required, as the application was filed in English.
- c. ☐ is not herewith, but will be filed when required by the forthcoming PTO Missing Requirements Notice per Rule 494(c) if box 4(a) is X'd or Rule 495(c) if box 4(b) is X'd.
- d. ☐ Translation verification attached (not required now).

11. ☒ Please see the attached Preliminary Amendment
12. ☒ Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)), i.e., before 18th month from first priority date above in item 3, are transmitted herewith (file only if in English) including:
13. ☒ PCT Article 19 claim amendments (if any) have been transmitted by the International Bureau
14. ☐ Translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)), i.e., of claim amendments made before 18th month, is attached (required by 20th month from the date in item 3 if box 4(a) above is X'd, or 30th month if box 4(b) is X'd, or else amendments will be considered canceled).

15. **A declaration of the inventor** (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4))

- a. ☒ is submitted herewith ☒ Original ☐ Facsimile/Copy
- b. ☐ is not herewith, but will be filed when required by the forthcoming PTO Missing Requirements Notice per Rule 494(c) if box 4(a) is X'd or Rule 495(c) if box 4(b) is X'd.

16. **An International Search Report (ISR):**

- a. Was prepared by ☐ European Patent Office ☐ Japanese Patent Office ☒ Other
- b. ☒ has been transmitted by the International Bureau to PTO.
- c. ☒ copy herewith (2 pg(s).) ☒ plus Annex of family members (1 pg(s)).

International Preliminary Examination Report (IPER):

- a. ☒ has been transmitted (if this letter is filed after 28 months from date in item 3) in English by the International Bureau with Annexes (if any) in original language.
- b. ☐ copy herewith in English.
- c.1 ☒ IPER Annex(es) in original language ("Annexes" are amendments made to claims/spec/drawings during Examination) including attached amended:
- c.2 ☒ Specification/claim pages # __ claims #2
Dwg Sheets #
- d. ☐ Translation of Annex(es) to IPER (required by 30th month due date, or else annexed amendments will be considered canceled).

Information Disclosure Statement including:

- a. ☒ Attached Form PTO-1449 listing documents
- b. ☒ Attached copies of documents listed on Form PTO-1449
- c. ☒ A concise explanation of relevance of ISR references is given in the ISR.

19. ☒ **Assignment** document and Cover Sheet for recording are attached. Please mail the recorded assignment document back to the person whose signature, name and address appear at the end of this letter.

20. ☐ Copy of Power to IA agent.

21. ☐ **Drawings** (complete only if 8d or 10a(4) not completed): __ sheet(s) per set: ☐ 1 set informal; ☐ Formal of size ☐ A4 ☐ 11"

22. Small Entity Status ☒ is **Not** claimed ☐ is claimed (pre-filing confirmation required)
- 22(a) __ (No.) Small Entity Statement(s) enclosed (since 9/8/00 Small Entity Statements(s) not essential to make claim)

23. **Priority** is hereby claimed under 35 U.S.C. 119/365 based on the priority claim and the certified copy, both filed in the International Application during the international stage based on the filing in (country) FINLAND of:

	Application No.	Filing Date		Application No.	Filing Date
(1)	991494	June 30, 1999	(2)	_____	_____
(3)	_____	_____	(4)	_____	_____
(5)	_____	_____	(6)	_____	_____

- a. ☒ See Form PCT/IB/304 sent to US/DO with copy of priority documents. If copy has not been received, please proceed promptly to obtain same from the IB.
- b. ☐ Copy of Form PCT/IB/304 attached.

RE: USA National Phase Filing of PCT/FI00/00583

JG19 Rec'd PCT/US 20 DEC 2001

24. Attached:

25. Per Item 17.c2, cancel original pages #___, claims #___, Drawing Sheets #___26. **Calculation of the U.S. National Fee (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(1)) and other fees is as follows:**

Based on amended claim(s) per above item(s) ☐ 12, ☐ 14, ☐ 17, ☐ 25 (hilitte)

Total Effective Claims	9	minus 20 =	0	x \$18/\$9	= \$0	966/967
Independent Claims	3	minus 3 =	0	x \$84/\$42	= \$0	964/965
If any proper (ignore improper) Multiple Dependent claim is present,				add\$280/\$140	+0	968/969

BASIC NATIONAL FEE (37 CFR 1.492(a)(1)-(4)): →→ BASIC FEE REQUIRED, NOW →→→→ ↓

A. If country code letters in item 1 are not "US", "BR", "BB", "TT", "MX", "IL", "NZ", "IN" or "ZA" ↓

See item 16 re:

1. Search Report was <u>not</u> prepared by EPO or JPO -----	add\$1,040/\$52	960/961
	0	
2. Search Report was prepared by EPO or JPO -----	add\$890/\$445	970/971
	+1040	

SKIP B, C, D AND E UNLESS country code letters in item 1 are "US", "BR", "BB", "TT", "MX", "IL", "NZ", "IN", "ZA", "LC" or "PH" ↓

→ <input type="checkbox"/> B. If USPTO did not issue <u>both</u> International Search Report (ISR) and (if box 4(b) above is X'd) the International Examination Report (IPER), -----	add\$1,040/\$52	+0	960/961
	0		
→ <input type="checkbox"/> C. If USPTO issued ISR but not IPER (or box 4(a) above is X'd), -----	add\$740/\$370	+0	958/959
→ <input type="checkbox"/> D. If USPTO issued IPER but IPER Sec. V boxes <u>not all</u> 3 YES, -----	add\$710/\$355	+0	956/957
→ <input type="checkbox"/> E. If international preliminary examination fee was paid to USPTO and Rules 492(a)(4) and 496(b) satisfied (in IPER Sec. V <u>all</u> 3 boxes <u>must</u> be YES for <u>all</u> claims), --	add \$100/\$50	+0	962/963

27.	SUBTOTAL =	\$1040	
28.	If Assignment box 19 above is X'd, add Assignment Recording fee of ---\$40	+40	(581)
29.	If box 15a is x'd, determine whether inventorship on Declaration is different than in international stage. If yes, add (per Rule 497(d) ---\$130	+0	(968)
30.	Attached is a check to cover the -----	TOTAL FEES	\$1080

Our Deposit Account No. 03-3975

Our Order No. 60258 C# 290483 M#

00909

CHARGE STATEMENT: The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee specifically authorized hereafter, or any missing or insufficient fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith or concerning any paper filed hereafter, and which may be required under Rules 16-18 and 492 (missing or insufficient fee only) now or hereafter relative to this application and the resulting Official document under Rule 20, or credit any overpayment, to our Account/Order Nos. shown above for which purpose a duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

This CHARGE STATEMENT does not authorize charge of the issue fee until/unless an issue fee transmittal form is filed

Pillsbury Winthrop LLP
Intellectual Property Group

By Atty: Christine H. McCarthyReg. No. 41844Sig: [Signature]Fax: (703) 905-2500Tel: (703) 905-2143

Atty/Sec: CHM/JRH

NOTE: File in duplicate with 2 postcard receipts (PAT-103) & attachments.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re National Stage Application of PCT/FI00/00583

TUULOS

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Appln. No.: Not Yet Assigned

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: December 19, 2001

FOR: IDENTIFYING AN OBJECT

* * * * *

December 20, 2001

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENTHon. Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Before beginning examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1, just after the title, please insert the following paragraph:

--This is the U.S. National Stage of PCT/FI00/00583, filed June 28, 2000, which was filed in the English language.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the amended claims from the International Preliminary Examination Report Annexes as follows:

1. (Amended) A method of identifying an object having an identification means, comprising
receiving at a mobile station an authorization signal indicating a point of time
allowed for transmission of an identification request signal,

10018572-122001

reading the object's identification data from the identification means by transmitting said identification request signal by the mobile station's radio transmitter, and receiving an identification signal by the mobile station's radio receiver or by the mobile station's infrared receiver, and

identifying said object on the basis of the identification data included in the identification signal.

2. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising

transmitting the identification data read by the mobile station with the mobile station's radio transmitter via a base station in a mobile communication system to a data processing device in which data relating to said object is stored, and

identifying said object by comparing the data stored in the data processing device with said identification data.

3. (Amended) A system comprising

a mobile switching centre,

a base station communicating with the mobile switching centre;

a mobile station comprising a radio transmitter and a receiver for setting up a connection to the mobile switching centre via the base station,

an object comprising an identification means composed of a tag comprising means for generating an identification signal including identification data in response to a predetermined identification request signal, and

a data processing device in which data relating to said object is maintained, wherein said system comprises control means for generating and transmitting an authorization signal indicating a point of time allowed for transmitting an identification request signal, and

said mobile station comprises

means for reading said object's identification data from the identification

means:

- by transmitting an identification request signal with the mobile stations radio transmitter at a point of time indicated by the authorization signal, and

- by receiving the identification data included in an identification signal with the mobile stations radio receiver or with an infrared receiver, and

means for transmitting the read identification data with the mobile station's radio transmitter over the radio path via the base station further to said data processing device.

4. (Amended) A system is claimed in claim 3, wherein said tag is a passive tag comprising means for recovering energy from said identification request signal and means for generating said identification signal with said recovered energy.

5. (Amended) A system as claimed in claim 3, wherein said tag comprises means for generating an RF frequency identification signal.

6. (Amended) A system as claimed in claim 3, wherein said tag comprises means for generating an identification signal composed of an infrared signal.

7. (Amended) A system as claimed in claim 3, wherein
said control means are arranged to generate and transmit said authorization signal in response to an inquiry signal received by the control means, and

said mobile station comprises means for transmitting the inquiry signal to said control means.

8. (Amended) A system as claimed in claim 3, wherein

said system is a time division mobile communication system, in which the frequency channels used by the system are divided into timeslots,

said control means are arranged to generate and transmit an authorization signal indicating the timeslot or timeslots allowed for the transmission of the identification request signal, and

said mobile station comprises means for receiving the authorization signal from the control means and for transmitting the identification request signal in the timeslot indicated by the authorization signal.

9. (Amended) A mobile station comprising

a user interface, and

a radio transmitter and a radio receiver for setting up a connection to a base station in a mobile communication system via radio signals, characterized in that mobile station further comprises

means for receiving an authorization signal transmitted by the base station over the radio path,

means which, in response to measures carried out by the mobile station's user via the user interface, read identification data from an object's identification means, said means for reading the identification data are composed of the mobile station's radio transmitter, which at the point of time indicated by the authorization signal transmits a predetermined

the mobile station comprises means for transmitting the read identification data with said radio transmitter to said base station.

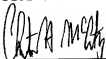
REMARKS

Claims 1-9 from the Annexes of the International Preliminary Examination Report are pending in this National Stage application. These claims were amended to conform to U.S. practice; *e.g.*, to remove reference numerals and multiple dependencies. No new material was added.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached Appendix is captioned **"VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE"**.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure: Appendix

10018572-122001

APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Priority claim is recited in new paragraph just after the title on page 1.

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Amended) A method of identifying an object having an identification means, [characterized by] comprising
- receiving at a mobile station an authorization signal indicating a point of time allowed for transmission of an identification request signal,
- reading the object's identification data from the identification means by transmitting said identification request signal by the mobile station's radio transmitter, and receiving an identification signal by the mobile station's radio receiver or by the mobile station's infrared receiver, and
- identifying said object on the basis of the identification data included in the identification signal.
2. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, [characterized by the further steps of] further comprising
- transmitting the identification data read by the mobile station with the mobile station's radio transmitter via a base station in a mobile communication system to a data processing device in which data relating to said object is stored, and
- identifying said object by comparing the data stored in the data processing device with said identification data.

3. (Amended) A system comprising

a mobile switching centre [(MSC)],

a base station [(BTS)] communicating with the mobile switching centre;

a mobile station [(MS, MS')] comprising a radio transmitter [(TRX)] and a receiver [(TRX)] for setting up a connection to the mobile switching centre via the base station,

an object [(1)] comprising an identification means [(2)] composed of a tag comprising means for generating an identification signal including identification data in response to a predetermined identification request signal, and

a data processing device [(3)] in which data relating to said object is maintained, [characterized in that] wherein

said system comprises control means [(BSC)] for generating and transmitting an authorization signal indicating a point of time allowed for transmitting an identification request signal, and

said mobile station [(MS, MS')] comprises

means for reading said object's [(1)] identification data from the identification means[(2)]:

- by transmitting an identification request signal with the mobile stations [(MS)] radio transmitter [(TRX)] at a point of time indicated by the authorization signal, and
- by receiving the identification data included in an identification signal with the mobile stations radio receiver [(TRX)] or with an infrared receiver [(5)], and

means for transmitting the read identification data with the mobile station's radio transmitter [(TRX)] over the radio path via the base station [(BTS)] further to said data processing device[(3)].

4. (Amended) A system is claimed in claim 3, [characterized in that] wherein said tag [(2)] is a passive tag comprising means for recovering energy from said identification request signal and means for generating said identification signal with said recovered energy.

5. (Amended) A system as claimed in claim 3[or 4], [characterized in that] wherein said tag comprises means for generating an RF frequency identification signal.

6. (Amended) A system as claimed in claim 3[or 4], [characterized in that] wherein said tag comprises means for generating an identification signal composed of an infrared signal.

7. (Amended) A system as claimed in [any one of claims 3 to 6] claim 3, [characterized in that] wherein

said control means [(BSC)] are arranged to generate and transmit said authorization signal in response to an inquiry signal received by the control means, and

said mobile station [(MS)] comprises means [(TRX)] for transmitting the inquiry signal to said control means [(BSC)].

8. (Amended) A system as claimed in [any one of claims 3 to 6] claim 3, [characterized in that] wherein

said system is a time division mobile communication system, in which the frequency channels used by the system are divided into timeslots,

said control means [(BSC)] are arranged to generate and transmit an authorization signal indicating the timeslot or timeslots allowed for the transmission of the identification request signal, and

said mobile station [(MS)] comprises means [(TRX)] for receiving the authorization signal from the control means [(BSC)] and for transmitting the identification request signal in the timeslot indicated by the authorization signal.

9. (Amended) A mobile station comprising

a user interface [(4)], and

a radio transmitter [(TRX)] and a radio receiver [(TRX)] for setting up a connection to a base station [(BTS)] in a mobile communication system via radio signals, characterized in that mobile station further comprises

means for receiving an authorization signal transmitted by the base station [(BTS)] over the radio path,

means [(TRX, 5)] which, in response to measures carried out by the mobile station's user via the user interface[(4)], read identification data from an object's identification means[(2)], said means for reading the identification data are composed of the mobile station's [(MS)] radio transmitter[(TRX)], which at the point of time indicated by the authorization signal transmits a predetermined identification request signal, an of the mobile station's radio receiver [(TRX)] or of an infrared receiver[(5)], which receives an identification signal comprising the identification data, and

the mobile station [(MS, MS')] comprises means for transmitting the read identification data with said radio transmitter [(TRX)] to said base station.

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IDENTIFYING AN OBJECT

The present invention relates to identifying an object by means of an identification means arranged in the object.

In previously known solutions, objects, i.e. for example components
5 processed in a factory warehouse or on a production line, are provided with identification means, which allow mechanical identification of said objects. Examples of such known identification means are bar code labels and tags. To identify an object, identification data is read from its identification means, allowing the object to be identified.

10 In known solutions, tailor-made hardware is used for the identification of objects. Consequently, for example a person working by a production line in a factory has at his disposal a reading device, such as a bar code reader or a device for reading identification data from a tag. In cases when the identification data read from the identification means has to be transmitted to,
15 for example, a data processing device in which inventory accounting or the like is maintained, the reading device is usually connected to a communication device by means of which the identification data can be transmitted further to the data processing device.

A known reading device of the type described above has, however,
20 the disadvantage that the device used has to be tailor-made for reading the identification means. If, in addition, the identification data has to be transmitted to a data processing device, this means that two different devices have to be matched up in order to provide a working reading device. In practice, matching up two different devices often requires changes to both devices in order for

10018572-122001

them to co-operate. In addition, a reading device composed of separate, inter-connected devices is usually large, complicated to use and relatively expensive.

It is an object of the present invention to solve the above problem
5 and to provide a solution for facilitating the identification of an object comprising an identification means, and enabling a more flexible and inexpensive way to accomplish a reading device. This object is achieved by the method of the invention of identifying an object comprising an identification means. The method of the invention is characterized by reading the object's identification
10 data from the identification means by a mobile station, and identifying said object on the basis of the identification data read by the mobile station.

The invention also relates to a system in which the method of the invention can be utilized. The system of the invention comprises: a mobile switching centre, a base station communicating with the mobile switching centre,
15 tre, a mobile station comprising a radio transmitter and a radio receiver for setting up a connection to the mobile switching centre via the base station, an object comprising an identification means, and a data processing device in which data relating to said object is maintained. The system of the invention is characterized in that said mobile station comprises: means for reading the
20 object's identification data from the identification means, and means for transmitting the read identification data by the mobile station's radio transmitter over the radio path via the base station further to said data processing device.

The invention further relates to a mobile station, which can be util-

ized in the system of the invention. The mobile station of the invention comprises a user interface, a radio transmitter and a radio receiver for setting up a connection to a base station in a mobile communication system via radio signals. The mobile station of the invention is characterized by comprising means
5 for reading identification data from the object's identification means in response to measures taken by the mobile station's user via the user interface, and means for transmitting the read identification data to said base station by said radio transmitter.

The invention is based on utilizing a conventional mobile station of
10 a mobile communication system for reading identification data from the identification means. This eliminates the need to make a special reading device solely for reading the identification data. If the read identification data has to be transmitted to a special data processing device, the mobile station is able to attend to this when reading the identification data, for example by transmit-
15 ting the identification data as a short message via a mobile communication network to the data processing device.

The most significant advantage of the solution of the invention is that there is no need for a special reading device for reading the identification data. Consequently, the device used for reading the data, i.e. a mobile station,
20 is notably more inexpensive than in known solutions, in which said device has to be specially tailor-made for said purpose. In addition, the reading device, i.e. the mobile station, can be made distinctly smaller than known reading device/radio transmitter combinations. This facilitates the use and handling of the device used for reading the identification data. Owing to its small size, the de-

vice used for reading the data is also suitable for use as a conventional mobile station.

In a preferred embodiment of the invention, the identification means is composed of a bar code. In this case, a bar code reader can be integrated into the mobile station and used for reading the data from the object's identification means.

In a second preferred embodiment of the invention, the identification means can be composed of a tag. This allows the radio transmitter of the mobile station to be utilized for transmitting a predetermined identification request signal. In this case, in response to the identification request signal, the tag generates an identification signal, which the mobile station receives either with its radio receiver or, alternatively, with an infrared receiver. Since mobile stations comprising not only a radio transmitter and a radio receiver, but also an infrared receiver, are already in use, this embodiment of the invention also renders it unnecessary to make any structural changes to the mobile station. It is also feasible to achieve the changes necessary for applying the invention simply by changing the mobile station's software.

As identification means can be used a tag capable of recovering operational energy from the RF field surrounding it. Consequently, the tag can be a passive tag that obtains the necessary operational energy from the RF field of the identification request signal transmitted by the mobile station. However, the tag is preferably so programmed that it generates an identification signal only when it has received the right identification request signal. In other words, the identification request signal preferably includes a certain code

whose identification makes the tag generate the identification signal. This prevents a radio signal generated for example by a base station in a mobile communication system from inducing the transmission of an identification signal, even though said radio signal is at the tag's toggle frequency.

5 In order for the identification request signal transmitted by the mobile station via the radio transmitter not to interfere with other parts of the mobile communication system, the mobile communication system preferably comprises control means for producing an authorization signal. In this case, said authorization signal indicates to the mobile station the point of time allowed for the transmission of an identification request signal. In a digital time
10 division mobile communication system, for example, a given timeslot can be reserved for the transmission of the identification request signal, and the mobile communication system forwards information on this timeslot in an authorization signal to be transmitted on its control channel.

15 In a third preferred embodiment of the invention, an infrared transmitter for transmitting the identification request signal can be arranged in the mobile station. In this case, the identification means can be composed of a tag comprising a battery and an infrared receiver, for example. Consequently, the tag is able to generate the identification signal in response to an identification
20 request signal by the operational energy obtained from the battery. The tag can generate the identification signal with, for example, infrared signals or radio signals.

The preferred embodiments of the method, system and mobile station of the invention are disclosed in the attached dependent claims 2 to 7, 9

to 15, and 17 to 20.

In the following, the invention will be described in greater detail by way of example, with reference to the attached figures, of which

Figure 1 is a flow chart of a first preferred embodiment of the
5 method of the invention,

Figure 2 is a block diagram of a first preferred embodiment of the system of the invention,

Figure 3 illustrates a first preferred embodiment of the mobile station of the invention,

10 Figure 4 illustrates a second preferred embodiment of the mobile station of the invention, and

Figure 5 illustrates a third preferred embodiment of the mobile station of the invention.

Figure 1 is a flow chart of a first preferred embodiment of the
15 method of the invention.

In block A in Figure 1, a mobile station generates and transmits a predetermined identification signal. Said identification signal can be transmitted for example with the radio transmitter of the mobile station or, alternatively, with the infrared transmitter of the mobile station. The type of identification
20 means arranged in the object to be identified is naturally decisive.

In block B, the mobile station receives the identification signal including identification data. The identification signal can be received with the radio receiver of the mobile station if the identification means used is for example a tag generating an RF frequency identification signal. If again the iden-

tification means generates an identification signal composed of an infrared signal, it can be received with the infrared receiver of the mobile station.

In block C, the identification data received is transmitted with the radio transmitter of the mobile station further to a data processing device, in
5 which data on objects to be identified and their identification data is maintained. The identification data can be transmitted for example in a short message or another corresponding text message via the mobile communication system to the data processing device.

In block D, the object, whose identification data was read, is identified. For this purpose, a list of all objects to be identified is stored in the data
10 processing device, and the list contains the identification data of each object.

Figure 2 is a block diagram of a first preferred embodiment of the system of the invention. In the case of Figure 2, the assumption is, by way of example, that the object to be identified is composed of a paper roll 1, to which
15 an identification means 2 is fastened.

The system of Figure 2 comprises a data processing device 3 for maintaining data relating to the objects to be identified. If the objects to be identified are assumed to be for example paper rolls, then the following can be stored in the data processing device 3 for each paper roll: identification data,
20 i.e. an identifier to be read from the identification means attached to the paper roll, the weight of the paper roll, and the buyer/receiver of the paper roll. Consequently, for example the weight of the paper roll can be determined by means of the identification data of the paper roll.

In the case of Figure 2, the identification data on the paper roll is

read with a mobile station MS from the identification means 2 attached to the paper roll. Once the identification data is read to the mobile station MS, the mobile station MS transmits it further via its radio transmitter to a base station BTS. From the base station, the identification data is forwarded by a mobile communication network further via a base station controller BSC and a mobile switching centre MSC to the data processing device 3. If the identification data is transmitted in a short message, a short message service centre (not shown in the figure) in the mobile communication system also participates in the data transmission.

Once the data processing device 3 has received the identification data, it retrieves from its memory the data on the object to be identified. The data processing device may have been programmed to return the data on the identified object to for example the mobile station MS in a short message transmitted via the mobile communication system. Such an embodiment allows the user of the mobile station to receive on the display of his mobile station MS for example the name of the receiver of the paper roll 1, once he has first read the identification data on the paper roll 1 from the identification means 2 with the mobile station.

The identification data on the paper roll 1 can be read from the identification means in several alternative ways depending on the type of identification means 2 that is attached to the paper roll. Reading the data is described in greater detail for Figures 3 to 5.

Figure 3 illustrates a first preferred embodiment of the mobile station of the invention. The mobile station MS shown in Figure 3 is a conven-

tional mobile telephone comprising a combined radio transmitter/radio receiver unit TRX that the mobile station uses to set up a connection to the other parts of the mobile communication system.

5 The mobile station MS of Figure 3 can be utilized in the system of the invention for example when the identification means 2 is a passive tag, known per se. A passive tag absorbs energy from the surrounding RF field. The tag uses the absorbed energy to generate an RF field at another frequency.

10 In accordance with the invention, in response to measures (e.g. pushing a certain button) taken by the mobile station's user via a user interface, the mobile station MS transmits with its radio transmitter TRX an identification request signal at a given frequency. In this case the identification signal includes a given code, to the recognition of which the tag reacts by transmitting an RF frequency identification signal including the identification data
15 stored in the tag. The mobile station receives via its radio receiver said identification signal, via which the identification data in the identification means can be read in the mobile station MS.

Tags operating for example in the range of about 900 MHz are commercially available. This means that a mobile station of the GSM system,
20 for example, can read the contents of such tags, provided that the mobile station is programmed to operate at the toggle frequency of that particular tag. A tag usually employs two toggle frequencies, the first of which is used to invoke the tag, i.e. a given signal at said frequency makes the tag transmit the data stored in its memory at the second toggle frequency. This way a mobile station

capable of duplex type of communication can be so programmed that the transmission frequency of the mobile station corresponds to the first toggle frequency of the tag, and the reception frequency of the mobile station corresponds to the second toggle frequency of the tag. Such commercially available tags may comprise for example a 64-bit memory, in which the identification data can be stored so that they can be read from the memory by means of a mobile station MS.

In order for the reading of data by means of a mobile station's MS radio transmitter and radio receiver not to interfere with the operation of the other parts of a mobile communication network, the mobile station MS can be programmed to transmit the identification request message on a given frequency channel, which is reserved in the mobile communication system for reading identification data. Alternatively, the mobile station can transmit the identification data at a given predetermined point of time, which allows the utilization of a frequency channel that is also used for other purposes. This may be accomplished for example by the mobile station MS first sending a predetermined inquiry signal via the base station BTS of Figure 2 to the base station controller BSC, when the mobile station's MS user activates the reading of the identification data via the user interface 4. The base station controller BSC then checks the point of time allowed for reading the data without other network parts being disturbed. The base station controller indicates said point of time to the mobile station MS by a special authorization signal that the base station controller transmits to the mobile station MS via the base station BTS. Consequently, the transmitter TRX of the mobile station transmits the

identification request signal at the point of time indicated by the authorization signal.

If the data has to be read from the identification means on a frequency channel that is used by the mobile communication system, the mobile station can be programmed to use a low power level during the reading. In many cases the mobile station can be brought very near the identification means before the mobile station transmits the identification request signal. Consequently, an identification request signal transmitted on a low power level is sufficient for reading the data of the identification means comprised of for example a tag. In addition, the duration in time of the identification request signal may be short. An identification signal having a low power level and/or a short duration in time brings about the advantage that the interference caused to other system parts is minimized.

When the invention is applied in a time division mobile telephone system, the base station controller BSC of Figure 2 can allocate a given timeslot from the base station BTS for reading the identification data. In this case the base station BTS transmits on its control channel, along with other data relating to the radio cell it maintains, a special authorization signal that indicates the timeslot allowed for reading the identification data. When the user of the mobile station MS of Figure 3 uses the user interface 4 to activate the reading of the identification data, the mobile station waits until it receives an authorization signal on the control channel. The transmitter TRX of the mobile station MS then waits until it is the turn of the timeslot indicated by the authorization signal to transmit, and then transmits the identification request signal.

In accordance with the invention, the mobile station of Figure 3 can also be utilized for changing the data stored in the tag. In this case the transmitter of the mobile station transmits a predetermined signal, which the tag identifies, and which indicates to the tag that it must store in the memory the data transmitted from the mobile station. For example identification data can thus be stored in the tag in such a way that the user of the mobile station uses a keyboard to write the identification data that is to be stored in the tag.

Figure 4 illustrates a second preferred embodiment of the mobile station of the invention. In Figure 4, the mobile station MS' largely corresponds to the mobile station of Figure 3, but in the case of Figure 4, the mobile station MS reads the identification data by means of an infrared transmitter 5 and an infrared receiver 5.

Accordingly, the mobile station of Figure 4 is utilized with a tag that comprises means for receiving an identification request signal composed of an infrared signal, and for sending an identification signal composed of infrared signals. The use of infrared signals provides the advantages that the reading of identification data does not cause unnecessary interference to other parts of a mobile communication system.

Unlike in Figure 4, the mobile station may also be programmed to transmit the identification request signal by its radio transmitter TRX, and then receive the identification signal via the infrared receiver 5. In this case the mobile station can be utilized with a tag that is able to absorb the energy required for its operation from the identification request signal transmitted by the radio transmitter of the mobile station, and then use the absorbed energy and the

infrared transmitter to transmit the identification signal composed of infrared signals.

Figure 5 illustrates a third preferred embodiment of the mobile station of the invention. In the embodiment of Figure 5, the mobile station MS" is provided with a bar code reader 6. In other words, said embodiment is suitable for use when the identification means is composed of a bar code label. In this case the mobile station reads the identification data comprised by the bar code via the bar code reader 6, once the user of the mobile station MS" activates the reading of the data via the user interface.

It is to be understood that the above description and the related figures are only intended to illustrate the present invention. Different variations and modifications of the invention will be apparent to a person skilled in the art without deviating from the scope and spirit of the invention set forth in the attached claims.

AMENDED CLAIMS

[received by the International Bureau on 1 March 2001 (01.03.01);
original claims 1-20 replaced by amended claims 1-9 (3 pages)]

1. A method of identifying an object having an identification means,
5 **characterized by**

receiving at a mobile station an authorization signal indicating a
point of time allowed for transmission of an identification request signal,

reading the object's identification data from the identification means
by transmitting said identification request signal by the mobile station's radio
10 transmitter, and receiving an identification signal by the mobile station's radio
receiver or by the mobile station's infrared receiver, and

identifying said object on the basis of the identification data included
in the identification signal.

2. A method as claimed in claim 1, **characterized by** the
15 further steps of

transmitting the identification data read by the mobile station with
the mobile station's radio transmitter via a base station in a mobile communi-
cation system to a data processing device in which data relating to said object
is stored, and

20 identifying said object by comparing the data stored in the data
processing device with said identification data.

3. A system comprising
a mobile switching centre (MSC),

a base station (BTS) communicating with the mobile switching cen-
25 tre,

a mobile station (MS, MS') comprising a radio transmitter (TRX) and
a radio receiver (TRX) for setting up a connection to the mobile switching cen-
tre via the base station,

an object (1) comprising an identification means (2) composed of a
30 tag comprising means for generating an identification signal including identi-
fication data in response to a predetermined identification request signal, and

a data processing device (3) in which data relating to said object is
maintained, **characterized in that**

said system comprises control means (BSC) for generating and
35 transmitting an authorization signal indicating a point of time allowed for

transmitting an identification request signal, and
said mobile station (MS, MS') comprises
means for reading said object's (1) identification data from the identification means (2):

5 - by transmitting an identification request signal with the mobile stations (MS) radio transmitter (TRX) at a point of time indicated by the authorization signal, and

- by receiving the identification data included in an identification signal with the mobile stations radio receiver (TRX) or with an infrared receiver
10 (5), and

means for transmitting the read identification data with the mobile station's radio transmitter (TRX) over the radio path via the base station (BTS) further to said data processing device (3).

4. A system as claimed in claim 3, **characterized** in that said
15 tag (2) is a passive tag comprising means for recovering energy from said identification request signal and means for generating said identification signal with said recovered energy.

5. A system as claimed in claim 3 or 4, **characterized** in that
said tag comprises means for generating an RF frequency identification signal.

20 6. A system as claimed in claim 3 or 4, **characterized** in that said tag comprises means for generating an identification signal composed of an infrared signal.

7. A system as claimed in any one of claims 3 to 6, **characterized** in that

25 said control means (BSC) are arranged to generate and transmit said authorization signal in response to an inquiry signal received by the control means, and

said mobile station (MS) comprises means (TRX) for transmitting the inquiry signal to said control means (BSC).

30 8. A system as claimed in any one of claims 3 to 6, **characterized** in that

said system is a time division mobile communication system, in which the frequency channels used by the system are divided into timeslots,

35 said control means (BSC) are arranged to generate and transmit an authorization signal indicating the timeslot or timeslots allowed for the transmission of the identification request signal, and

said mobile station (MS) comprises means (TRX) for receiving the authorization signal from the control means (BSC) and for transmitting the identification request signal in the timeslot indicated by the authorization signal.

- 5 9. A mobile station comprising
a user interface (4), and
a radio transmitter (TRX) and a radio receiver (TRX) for setting up a connection to a base station (BTS) in a mobile communication system via radio signals, **characterized** in that the mobile station further comprises
- 10 means for receiving an authorization signal transmitted by the base station (BTS) over the radio path,
means (TRX, 5) which, in response to measures carried out by the mobile station's user via the user interface (4), read identification data from an object's identification means (2), said means for reading the identification data
- 15 are composed of the mobile station's (MS) radio transmitter (TRX), which at the point of time indicated by the authorization signal transmits a predetermined identification request signal, and of the mobile station's radio receiver (TRX) or of an infrared receiver (5), which receives an identification signal comprising the identification data, and
- 20 the mobile station (MS, MS') comprises means for transmitting the read identification data with said radio transmitter (TRX) to said base station.

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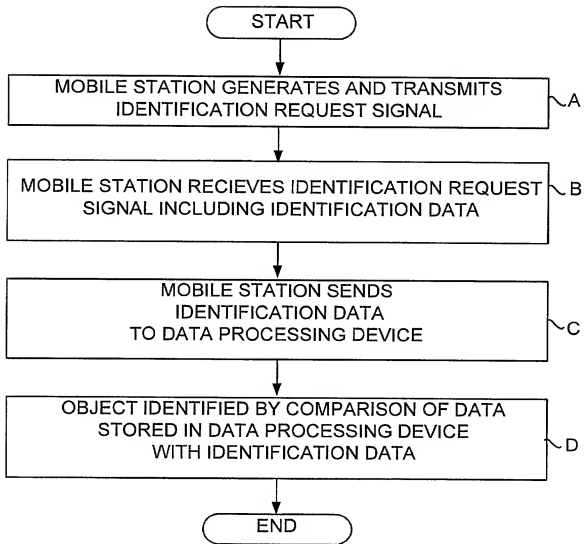


FIG. 1

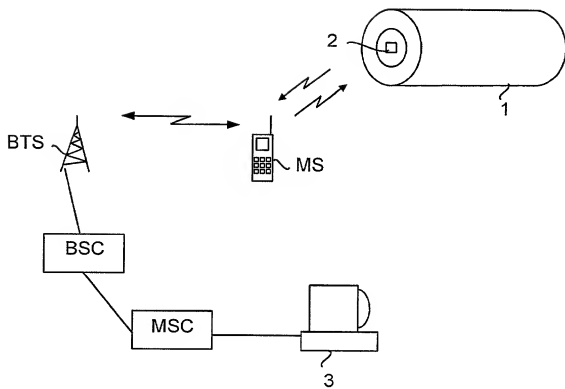


FIG. 2

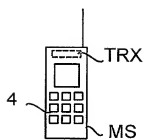


FIG. 3

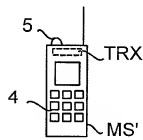


FIG. 4

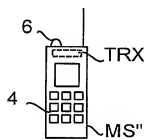


FIG. 5

**FOR UTILITY/DESIGN
CIP/PCT NATIONAL/SUPPLEMENTAL
ORIGINAL/SUBSTITUTE/SUPPLEMENTAL
DECLARATIONS**

**RULE 63 (37 C.F.R. 1.63)
DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY
FOR PATENT APPLICATION
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**PW
FORM**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name, and I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the INVENTION ENTITLED **IDENTIFYING AN OBJECT**
the specification of which (CHECK applicable BOX(ES))

X ☐ A. is attached hereto.
BOX(ES) → ☐ B. was filed on _____ as U.S. Application No. _____ /
→ ☒ C. was filed as PCT International Application No. PCT/ FI00/00583 on 28 June 2000
and (if applicable to U.S. or PCT application) was amended on _____

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above. I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. 1.56. Except as noted below, I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or 356(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or 365(a) of any PCT International Application which designated at least one other country than the United States, listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or PCT International Application, filed by me or my assignee disclosing the subject matter claimed in this application and having a filing date (1) before that of the application on which priority is claimed, or (2) if no priority claimed, before the filing date of this application:

PRIOR FOREIGN APPLICATION(S)

Number	Country	Day/MONTH/Year Filed	Date first Laid- open or Published	Date Patented or Granted	Priority NOT Claimed
991494	Finland	30 June 1999			

If more prior foreign applications, X box at bottom and continue on attached page.

Except as noted below, I hereby claim domestic priority benefit under 35 U.S.C. 115(e) or 120 and/or 365(c) of the indicated United States applications listed below and PCT international applications listed above or below and, if this is a continuation-in-part (CIP) application, insofar as the subject matter disclosed and claimed in this application is in addition to that disclosed in such prior applications, I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. 1.56 which became available between the filing date of each such prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

PRIOR U.S. PROVISIONAL, NONPROVISIONAL AND/OR PCT APPLICATION(S)

Application No. (series code/serial no.)	Day/MONTH/Year Filed	Status	Priority NOT Claimed
		pending, abandoned, patented	

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

And I hereby appoint Pillsbury Winthrop LLP, Intellectual Property Group, telephone number (202) 861-3000 (to whom all communications are to be directed), and persons of that firm who are associated with USPTO Customer No. 909 (see below label) individually and collectively my attorneys to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith and with the resulting patent, and I hereby authorize them to delete from that Customer No. names of persons no longer with their firm, to add new persons of their Firm to that Customer No., and to act and rely on instructions from and communicate directly with the person/assignee/attorney/firm/ organization who/which first sends/sent this case to them and by whom/which I hereby declare that I have consented after full disclosure to be represented unless/until I instruct the above Firm and/or an attorney of that Firm in writing to the contrary.

**USE ONLY FOR
PILLSBURY WINTHROP**

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Date: 18 October 2001

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Mailing Address			
(include Zip Code)			

- ☐ FOR ADDITIONAL INVENTORS see attached page.
☐ See additional foreign priorities on attached page (incorporated herein by reference).

Atty. Dkt. No. P

(M#)